

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A gateway apparatus connected to a first network and a second network and for controlling the operation of an apparatus or a plurality of apparatuses of control objective connected to said first network depending on the instructions directed to said second network by an instructing apparatus connected to said first network for said apparatuses of control objective, the gateway apparatus comprising:

monitoring means of monitoring the flow of the instructions for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective, directed to said second network by said instructing apparatus; and

control signal outputting means of outputting a control signal for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective to said apparatuses of control objective depending on the instructions when said flow of the instructions is monitored by said monitoring means.

2. A gateway apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising control information setting means in which control information for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective is set, wherein

said control signal outputting means outputs said control signal by using said control information set in said control information setting means.

3. A gateway apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said

control information is set in said control information setting means by an access from said instructing apparatus, by a user's input operation, or by an access from said apparatuses of control objective.

4. A gateway apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising identification information storing means of storing the identification information of each of said apparatuses of control objective, wherein

said control signal outputting means outputs said control signal by using said identification information stored in said identification information storing means.

5. A gateway apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said identification information is stored in said identification information storing means by an access from said instructing apparatus, by a user's input operation, or by an access from said apparatuses of control objective.

6. A gateway apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising device identification information acquiring means of acquiring said identification information of each of said apparatuses of control objective from all or a part of said apparatuses of control objective, wherein

said identification information storing means stores said identification information obtained by said device identification information acquiring means.

7. A gateway apparatus according to any one of Claims 1

to 6, further comprising data converting means of converting the data from said second network into data available for said instructing apparatus.

8. A program for causing a computer to serve as all or a part of:

said monitoring means of monitoring the flow of the instructions for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective, directed to said second network by said instructing apparatus; and

said control signal outputting means of outputting a control signal for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective to said apparatuses of control objective depending on the instructions when said flow of the instructions is monitored by said monitoring means; each in a gateway apparatus of Claim 1.

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